

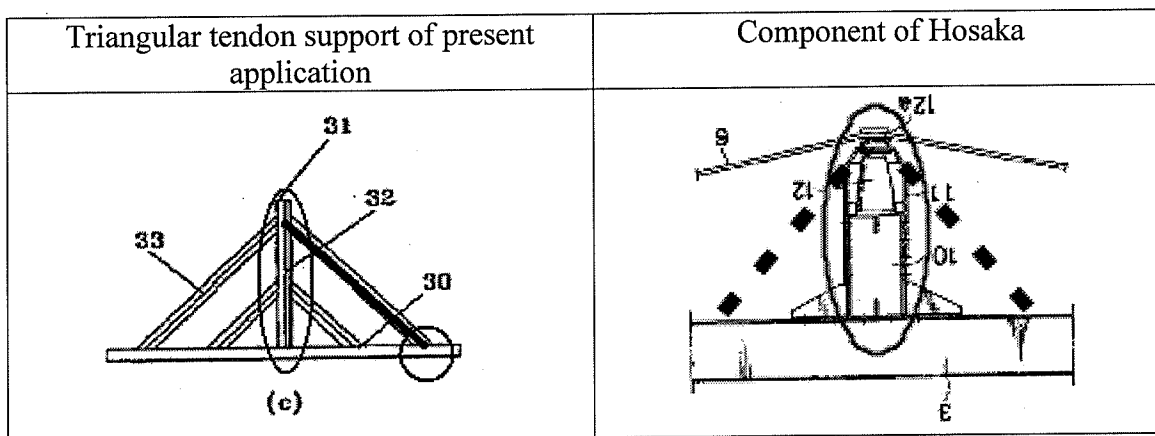
REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 6, and 8 have been amended. Claims 5 and 7 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 8 are currently pending.

Claims 1, 3, 4, and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hosaka in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,710,578 to Inoue. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

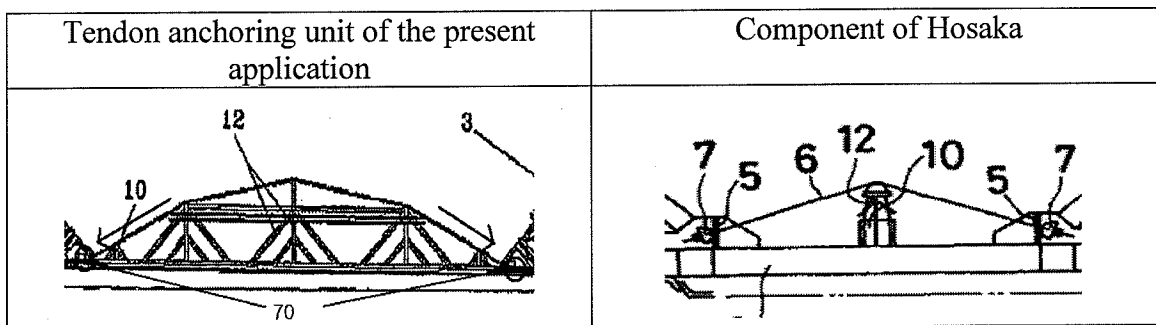
Claims 1, 4, and 6 each recite that a “triangular tendon support is constituted by a vertical member and inclined members, or only by the inclined members for forming a triangle and the vertical member and the inclined members are all connected to the wale.” The inclined members connected to the wale distribute external forces to the wale and protect the triangular tendon support from tilting.

In contrast, Hosaka discloses a base metal 10 that has only a vertical member and that does not have the inclined members which are connected to the wale as shown below in the figure. With Hosaka’s design, tilting of the base metal 10 by external forces is expected. Furthermore, the portion of the base metal 10, indicated by the Examiner as being the claimed inclined member, is nothing more than the inclined portions of the base metal 10 and does not connect to the wale. Thus, Hosaka fails to teach or suggest at least these limitations of claims 1, 4, and 6.



Claim 1 recites “wherein the tendon-anchoring unit forms an isosceles triangle ... wherein said tendon is fixed at a second corner of said isosceles triangle and tensioned by a hydraulic jack.” Claim 6 recites that “said tendon-anchoring unit forms a trapezoid, and said tendon and a second tendon from a second wale are fixed at both lower corners, and tensioned by a hydraulic jack.” Therefore, the tendon-anchoring units of claims 1 and 6 have the functions of tensioning and fixing the tendon.

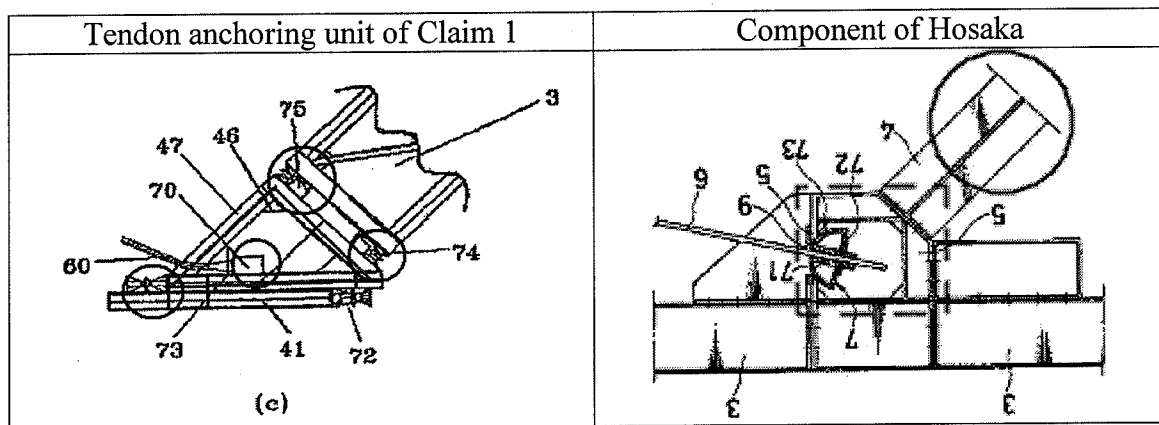
In contrast, as shown below in the figure, Hosaka discloses fixing the ends of a steel wire 6 to receivers 7 and tensioning the steel wire 6 by pushing the middle of the tendon up by jack 12. Thus, Hosaka fails to teach or suggest at least these limitations of claims 1 and 6.



Claim 1 further recites “wherein the tendon-anchoring unit forms an isosceles triangle, and a first corner of said isosceles triangle is reinforced by a reinforcing member, wherein said tendon is fixed at a second corner of said isosceles triangle and tensioned by a hydraulic jack, and a member facing said second corner of said isosceles triangle is connected to the strut through a hydraulic jack or a screw jack, and a portion of said isosceles triangle which is connected with said wale has a length adjusting function.”

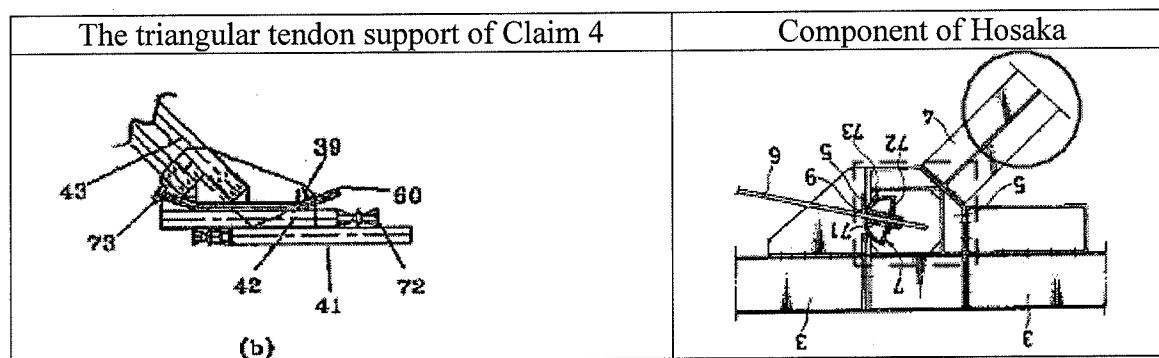
In contrast, as shown below in the figure, Hosaka discloses an anchoring unit of a tetragonal shape where the steel wire 6 is fixed at the side of the tetragon and the unit is directly connected to a beam 4. With the anchoring unit connected directly to the beam 4, the component of Hosaka cannot impose large compressive forces to the tendon-anchoring unit from the strut. In contrast, claim 1 recites that “a member facing said second corner of said isosceles triangle is

connected to the strut through a hydraulic jack or a screw jack, and a portion of said isosceles triangle which is connected with said wale has a length adjusting function.” Additionally, the receiver 7 of Hosaka is directly connected to the wale and is not connected to a length adjusting function as recited in claim 1 to solve problems, such as construction error. Thus, Hosaka fails to teach or suggest at least these limitations of claim 1.



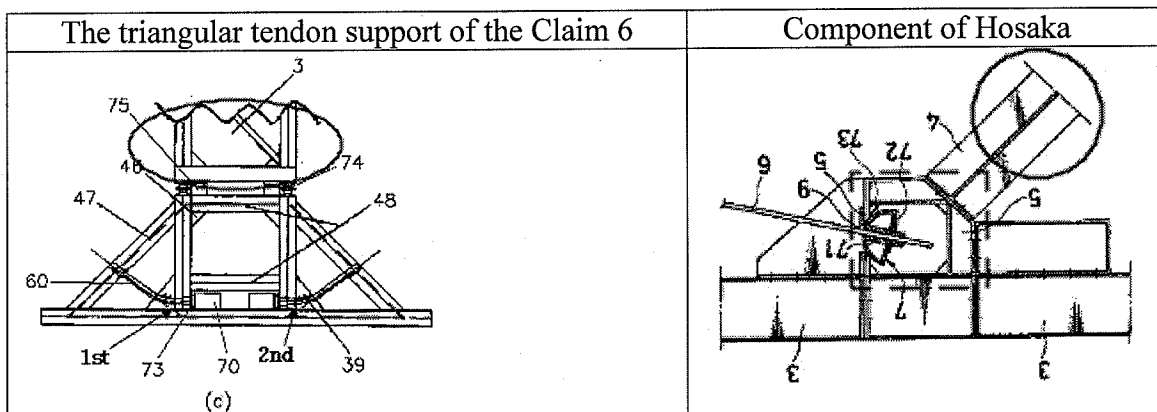
Claim 4 recites “wherein the tendon entered from one side of said tendon-anchoring unit is fastened at an opposite side of said tendon-anchoring unit, a single wale or a double wale is supported by said tendon-anchoring unit, and said tendon-anchoring unit is equipped with a screw jack or a precedent load jack having a length adjusting function.”

In contrast, as shown below in the figure, Hosaka discloses directly connecting the receiver 7 to the wale. Thus, Hosaka fails to teach or suggest at least these limitations of claim 4.



Claim 6 recites “wherein said tendon-anchoring unit forms a trapezoid, and said tendon and a second tendon from a second wale are fixed at both lower corners, and tensioned by a hydraulic jack, wherein a middle portion is directly connected to said truss strut or through a hydraulic jack or a screw jack.”

In contrast, as shown below in the figure, Hosaka discloses an anchoring unit of a tetragonal shape where a single steel wire 6 is fixed at the side of the tetragon. Further, beam 4 of Hosaka is directly connected to the anchoring unit and is not connected through a hydraulic jack or a screw jack as recited in claim 6. As a result, Hosaka cannot impose large compressive forces to the tendon-anchoring unit from the strut. Thus, Hosaka fails to teach or suggest at least these limitations of claim 6.



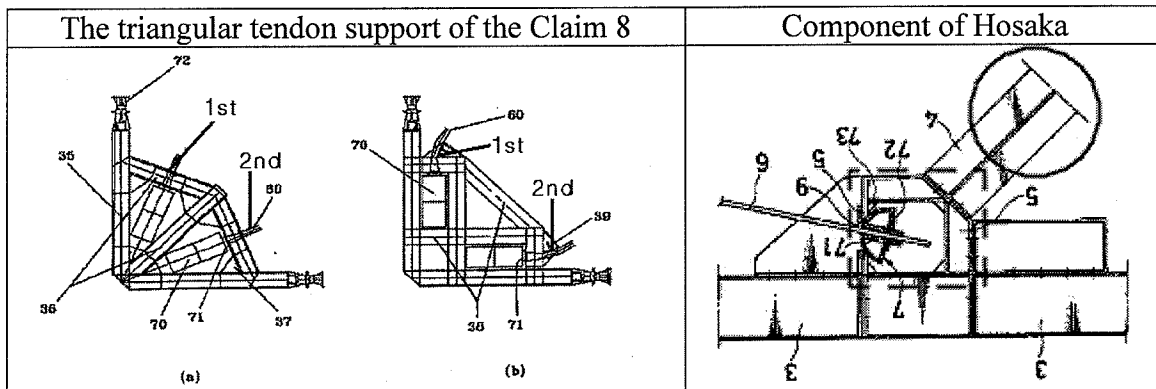
The Office Action relies on Inoue to remedy the deficiencies of Hosaka. Inoue, cited by the Office Action as disclosing the utility of struts for shoring an apparatus, fails to remedy the deficiencies of Hosaka. Thus, the cited combination of Hosaka and Inoue fails to teach or suggest all the limitations of claims 1, 4, and 6 and claims 1, 4, and 6 are patentable. Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and is patentable for at least the same reasons.

Additionally, the Applicant notes that letters patent for corresponding applications in Korea, Japan, and China have been obtained, which provides some evidence of patentability. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

Claim 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Publication No. 63-019334 to Hosaka et al. (“Hosaka”). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 8 recites, in part, a “prestressed scaffolding system forming a polygonal closed section only by using a prestressed wale comprising: a tendon; a plurality of triangular tendon supports, ... wherein the triangular tendon support is constituted by a vertical member and inclined members, or only by the inclined members for forming a triangle, and the vertical member and the inclined members are all connected to the wale, wherein the tendon-anchoring unit is placed at a corner of the polygonal closed section with no supporting struts and is designed to be connected with said wale and to fix the tendon and a second tendon from a second wale at both sides of the tendon-anchoring unit by hydraulic jacks which tension the tendon and the second tendon.”

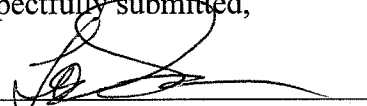
As discussed above, Hosaka fails to disclose that a “triangular tendon support is constituted by a vertical member and inclined members, or only by the inclined members for forming a triangle, and the vertical member and the inclined members are all connected to the wale.” Furthermore, as shown below in the figure, the anchoring unit of Hosaka is a tetragonal shape and has just one tendon fixed to one side of the tetragon. In contrast, claim 8 recites that the tendon anchoring unit is designed “is designed to be connected with said wale and to fix the tendon and a second tendon from a second wale at both sides of the tendon-anchoring unit by hydraulic jacks which tension the tendon and the second tendon.” Additionally, the anchoring unit of Hosaka requires the use of the beam 4 to supplement compression force. In contrast, claim 8 recites that the “tendon-anchoring unit is placed at a corner of the polygonal closed section with no supporting struts.” Thus, Hosaka fails to disclose all the limitations of claim 8 and claim 8 is allowable. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection be withdrawn.



In view of the above, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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